THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In April 1993, at the Dhaka SAARC Summit, bilateral issues were discussed by the Prime Minister with the Prime Minister of Bangladesh and included sharing of Ganga waters, boundary demarcation matter, repatriation of Chakma refugees setting up of rail links and expansion of bilateral trade.

Both sides had a better appreciation of each other's viewpoint, and they agreed to continue efforts to devise mutually acceptable solutions.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. On the issue of sharing of Ganga waters, it was agreed that proposals for an equitable, long-term and comprehensive arrangement would be developed by both sides and that discussions on this subject would continue.

Atomic test explosions by China

178. SHRI RAMNATH KOVIND: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that recently China has conducted series of Atomic test explosions;

(b) if so, whether Government have realised its impact on security of our country; and

(c) whether Government would reconsider its options in regard to the manufacture of Atomic weapons to safeguard the country's security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government keep under constant review all developments which have a bearing on national security. Government's consistent position has been that India's nuclear programme is only for peaceful purposes.

Indo-Russian political declaration

179. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of the political declarations signed by Prime Minister of India and the Russian President during former's recent visit to Russia recently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): The two Declarations signed during Prime Minister's visit to Russia from 29 June to 2 July, 1994 are the Moscow Declaration on the Protection of the Interests of Pluralistic States and the Declaration on the Further Development and Intensification of Cooperation Between the Republic of India and the Russian Federation.

The Moscow Declaration recognises that India and Russia are large, variegated and heterogenous societies with multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, multi-religious and multi-lingual societies. They face common challenges from such destablising forces as aggressive nationalism, political extremism, religious exclusivism, trans-border terrorism and separatism, which seek to undermine their unity and territorial integrity. It calls upon the international community to respect the territorial integrity of pluralistic states. A copy of the Moscow Declaration is given in the annexure. [*See Appendix* 171, Annexure No. 5].

The Declaration on the Further Development and Intensification of Cooperation between the Republic of India and the Russian Federation is a bilateral document and underlines the similarity, and, in many cases, identity of views between India and Russia on many international and regional issues. It also sets out the future directions and priority of bilateral cooperation. A copy of this

document is given in the annexure. [*See* appendix 171, annexure No. 5]

U.S. report on ISI-backed militancy in Kashmir

180. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in the 'Indian Express' of June 29, 1994 under the heading 'ISI-backed militancy to spread in India' warns US report;

(b) if so, what are the contents of the report;

(c) what are the details of ISI-backed terrorist training camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (POK), the number of persons being trained and arms supplied and training given to them; and

(d) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to meet the situation in Kashmir and various other parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report entitled "The Kashmir Connection" prepared by the Task Force on Terrorism and Unconventional Warfare of the House Republican Research Committee, US House of Representatives documents Pakistans' role in international terrorism and its profound ramifications for India. This non-official report states that supporters of Islamist causes, put Kashmir high on their list of Jihads to be fought. The report goes on to add that the fighting in Kashmir will escalate significantly and terrorism will expand into the rest of India.

(c) Government are aware of the existence of training camps both in Pakistan as well as Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (POK). Their number and location, however, vary from time to time. It is not possible to estimate the precise number of persons who may be receiving training in such camps.

(d) Government have intensified surveillance and patrolling along the border/LOC to prevent infiltration. Government remain vigilant about activities detrimental to national security and take all measures to safeguard it.

National Policy on food Processing

181. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a national policy on food processing in the country;

(b) if so, whether the comments of the Agriculture and Commerce Ministries are delaying in implementing the national policy on food processing;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Ministry has prepared a framework for developing national policy on food processing industries and is now taking steps to hold consultation with sister Ministries, State